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RESOLUTION

on the situation in East Timor

23/11/89

The European Parliament,

A. reaffirming the position adopted in its previous resolutions on the situation in East Timor and, notably, the resolution of September 1988 embodied in the Van den HEUVEL Report (Doc. A 2-143/88),

B. having regard to all the incidents reported in Dili, the capital of East Timor, during the visit of Pope John Paul II,

C. having regard to the pro-Indonesian propaganda disseminated by the occupying forces aimed at politically exploiting the papal visit in defiance of the wishes of the local population and Catholic clergy,

D. having regard to the climate of intimidation and threats which preceded the visit,

E. having regard to the violent repression unleashed by the Indonesian forces against hundreds of demonstrators who, at the end of the Pope's visit, expressed their support, in Portuguese, for FRETILIM and demanded independence, tearing up the Indonesian flag,

F. having regard to reports which refer to an unknown number of deaths as a result of this repression,

G. whereas some ten persons were arrested on the spot and approximately 500 were subsequently arrested and whereas the Indonesian authorities are reported to have executed eight persons in the immediate aftermath of these incidents and there is a danger that more will be executed,

H. having regard to the reaction of the Convergência Nacionalista de Timor-Leste (East Timor Nationalist Movement) and the Catholic clergy which claims to be subjected to intolerable persecution by the Indonesian forces,

I. having regard to the information black-out imposed by the occupying forces, including the banning, tapping and cutting of telephone communications,

J. having regard to the vital role played by young people in the nationalist demonstration in Dili which coincided with the Pope's visit,

1. Reiterates its demand that the people of East Timor be granted the right to self-determination and independence in accordance with the rules of international law;

2. Considers that, in view of the declared spiritual aims of the controversial visit by Pope John Paul II the Indonesian authorities

should not be allowed to exploit it in order to promote the integration of East Timor with Indonesia;

Condemns severely the repression which occurred both during and after the Pope's visit and demands the unconditional release of those arrested, a halt to the executions, free access and free movement for journalists and the re-establishment of communications with the outside world;

Condemns once more the genocide being perpetrated by Indonesia in East Timor;

Appeals to the Council, the Member States, the Foreign Trade Ministers meeting in political cooperation and the Commission fully to implement the European Parliament's resolutions concerning East Timor;

Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission, the Council, the Foreign Trade Ministers meeting in political cooperation and the Indonesian Government.

23/11/89